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CARBONDALE PA 18407

THIS MAILGRAM IS A CONFIRMATION COPY OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

2127473386 MGM TDMT NEW YORK NY 99 11-23 1243A EST
ZIP
CONGRESSMAN JOSEPH M MCDADE
1223 BANK TOWERS
SCRANTON PA 18503

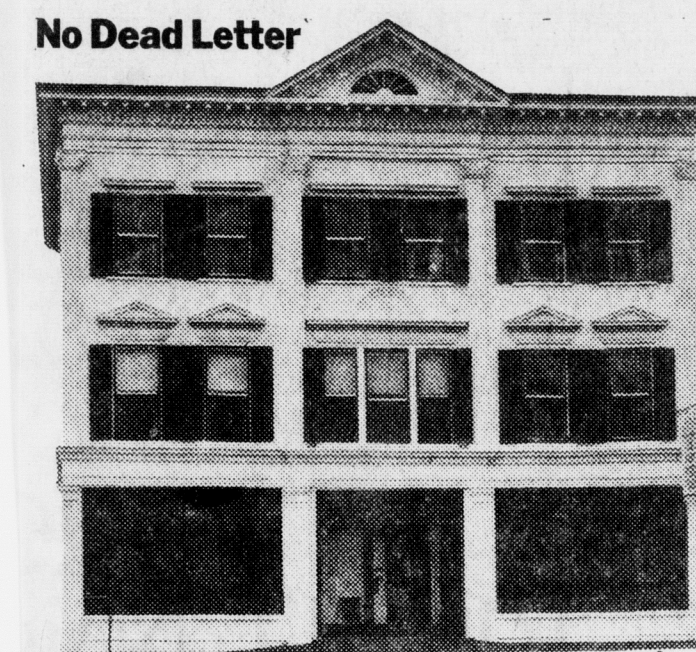
CARBONDALE DOES NOT NEED A NEW POST OFFICE. TO SPEND A HALF MILLION DOLLARS ON A NEW POST OFFICE IN CARBONDALE IS TO MISUSE TAXPAYER'S DOLLARS. IF FEDERAL MONEY IS AVAILABLE FOR USE IN CARBONDALE IT SHOULD BE USED TO REMODEL THE PRESENT POST OFFICE AND TO RESTORE AND REHABILITATE OTHER HISTORICALLY AND ARCHITECTURALLY IMPORTANT BUILDINGS IN CARBONDALE TO MOVE THE POST OFFICE FROM ITS PRESENT BUILDING IS TO JEOPARDIZE THE LIFE NOT ONLY OF MAIN STREET BUT ALSO OF CARBONDALE ITSELF
S ROBERT POWELL PRESIDENT CARBONDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

0046 EST

MGMCOMP MGM

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No Dead Letter



Century-old post office in Litchfield, Conn.

Litchfield Saves Its Old Post Office

A roar of protest went up in Litchfield, Conn., eight years ago when word came from Washington that the United States Postal Service planned to vacate the century-old, ramshackle frame building where it rented space and move to more contemporary and serviceable quarters. That the new post office was to be on the outskirts of town added insult to injury for residents, who saw the move as an erosion of Litchfield's "village green" atmosphere.

Town residents decided to fight the move. With a partnership led by the Litchfield Preservation Trust, they raised the \$175,000 needed to buy the building, which was an anchor in the town's National Historic District, from its private owners. The next step, convincing the Postal Service that it should stay in the Colonial Revival structure, was no small chore either.

"They were adamant about needing more modern facilities," said Victoria Sansing, president of the Preservation Trust. "But we felt all along that to just save the building and then to see the post office move two miles from the town would have defeated the primary purpose of saving the building."

Among the requirements that the Postal Service made were that the mailroom working area be doubled, that a modern loading dock be installed and that the battered wooden floor be replaced with ceramic tile. An additional \$165,000 was borrowed for remodeling to comply with the Government's mandates as well as for architectural and legal fees. The result: Litchfield was able to rededicate its "new" old post office this month.

"Certainly Historic Litchfield would have survived," said Mrs. Sansing. "But we've succeeded in keeping our downtown a 'living' place where residents do business, shop and communicate."